IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Douglas W. Morck and

Simon P. Holland

Serial No.:

March 30, 2000

For:

Filed:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

REDUCING OUTBREAKS OF

DIFFUSE LAMELLAR KERATITIS

PATER

C17,

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX PATENT APPLICATION, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date.

March 30, 2000

Date

Express Mail No. EL409493096US

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the application as

follows:

In The Claims:

Please amend claim 33 as follows:

33. (amended) A method for reducing outbreaks of diffuse lamellar keratitis comprising carrying out [the] a first method [of claim 13] on a daily basis and [the] a second method [of claim 17] on a less frequent basis;

said first method comprising a method for reducing outbreaks of aseptic inflammations of the eye resulting from eye surgery in eye surgery clinics using a sterilizer for sterilizing medical instruments with steam comprising a housing containing a steam generator supplied by a dispensing pump and a sterilization container for containing said